(iii) Concessions given to students and weaker sections of the society through concessional passes.

(iv) Heavy interest burden on loans advanced etc.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Delhi Admn. have been requested to issue more number of State Carriage Permits to private operators in view of increasing demands of computers. However, it is not possible to assess the number of private buses being placed on the roads of Delhi.

Government have also recommended a scheme of Special Stage Carriage Permits to introduce 100 luxury buses on 20 city routes at a fare structure higher than that of DTC.

(d) The terms and conditions of private Stage Carriage Permits include, among others, the following:——

(i) The vehicle shall be used only in specified area, or on a specified route, as mentioned in the permit.

(ii) It shall be ensured that buses on permit are plied by authorised drivers having Heavy Motor Vehicle Driving Licence only.

(iii) Permit holder shall ensure that no driver is allowed to perform duty for more than eight hours in a day and second driver is engaged where buses ply more than eight hours.

(iv) The permit holder shall ply the bus as per approved time-table and on the assigned route. It shall also be ensured that the trip is plied within the time prescribed for the trip.

(v) The fare shall be charged from passengers at rates approved by the State Transport Authority and tickets shall be issued to the passengers for the fare paid.

Bad condition of roads in Delhi

1425. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Hindustan Times' dated 30th August, 1991 under the heading "Roads in Delhi worst hit by rains";

(b) if so, what were the reasons for not undertaking the repairs/timely action by the concerned Civil authorities for the already pathetic state of the roads in the Capital, including the inner and outer ring roads and the National Highways; and

(c) what action Government propose to take/already taken in this regard including worst-hit-DDA residential colonies roads in New Delhi like Munirka in South Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Constitutionally this Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highway only. All other roads are essentially the responsibility of the State Governments/Union Territories concerned Public roads in Delhi are maintained by Delhi Administration, New Delhi Municipal Committee, Municipal Corporation of Delhi and Delhi Cantonment Board. As reported by these agencies, due to recent continuous rains, some of the roads had developed minor pot holes and other defects at a few places. Action has been/is being taken by the concerned agencies to repair the pot holes and damaged road surfaces.

Telephone connections to village Panchayats

1426. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide telephone connections to